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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

25944

7590

12/15/2008

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 320850 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320-4850 EXAMINER

EVERHART, CARIDAD

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2895 DATE MAILED: 12/15/2008

| A | APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| | 10/539,569 | 08/18/2005 | Noriyoshi Sato | 124305 | 4496 |

TITLE OF INVENTION: PLASMA GENERATOR, OZONE GENERATOR, SUBSTRATE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND MANUFACTURING METHOD OF MANUFACTURING SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

| APPLN. TYPE | SMALL ENTITY | ISSUE FEE DUE | PUBLICATION FEE DUE | PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE | TOTAL FEE(S) DUE | DATE DUE |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------|
| nonprovisional | NO | \$1510 | \$300 | \$0 | \$1810 | 03/16/2009 |

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail Mail Stop ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

or <u>Fax</u> (571)-273-2885

INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where n

| appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and not indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying maintenance fee notifications. CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address) | | | | Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission. | | | |
|--|---|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| 25944 7590 12/15/2008 OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 320850 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320-4850 | | | I he Sta add | Certificate Certificate Certify that this Fites Postal Service with ressed to the Mail St | cate of Mailing or Trans | g deposited with the United st class mail in an envelope above, or being facsimile | |
| ALEXANDRIA, | VA 22320-4030 | | | ishitted to the USI 10 | (371) 273-2883, On the C | (Depositor's name) | |
| | | | | | | (Signature) | |
| | | | | | | (Date) | |
| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | A. A. | TTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. | |
| 10/539,569 | 08/18/2005 | L | Noriyoshi Sato | | 124305 | 4496 | |
| TITLE OF INVENTION METHOD OF MANUFA | | | ATOR, SUBSTRATE PI | ROCESSING APPARA | ATUS AND MANUFAC | CTURING | |
| APPLN. TYPE | SMALL ENTITY | ISSUE FEE DUE | PUBLICATION FEE DUE | PREV. PAID ISSUE FI | EE TOTAL FEE(S) DUE | DATE DUE | |
| nonprovisional | NO | \$1510 | \$300 | \$0 | \$1810 | 03/16/2009 | |
| EXAMI | INER | ART UNIT | CLASS-SUBCLASS |] | | | |
| EVERHART, | CARIDAD | 2895 | 438-798000 | - | | | |
| "Fee Address" indicates and provided and pro | | 'Indication form ed. Use of a Customer a TO BE PRINTED ON | registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to | | | | |
| recordation as set forth (A) NAME OF ASSIG Please check the appropri- 4a. The following fee(s) a | a in 37 CFR 3.11. Comp SNEE ate assignee category or | categories (will not be pr | T a substitute for filing an (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY) cinted on the patent): | assignment. Y and STATE OR COU | UNTRY) prattion or other private greaters | oup entity 🚨 Government | |
| ☐ Issue Fee | | | ☐ A check is enclosed. ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached. | | | | |
| ☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted) ☐ Advance Order - # of Copies | | | The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any | | | | |
| 5. Change in Entity Stat | us (from status indicated SMALL ENTITY statu | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | _ | | (enclose a | n extra copy of this form). FR 1.27(g)(2). | |
| NOTE: The Issue Fee and interest as shown by the re | l Publication Fee (if requeecords of the United Sta | uired) will not be accepte tes Patent and Trademark | d from anyone other than Office. | the applicant; a register | red attorney or agent; or the | ne assignee or other party in | |
| Authorized Signature | | | | | | | |
| Typed or printed name | | | | | | | |
| This collection of informa an application. Confidenti submitting the completed this form and/or suggestic Box 1450, Alexandria, Vi Alexandria, Virginia 2231 | iality is governed by 35 application form to the ons for reducing this bur irginia 22313-1450. DO | FR 1.311. The informatic U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR USPTO. Time will vary den, should be sent to th ONOT SEND FEES OR | on is required to obtain or 1.14. This collection is es depending upon the indi e Chief Information Offic COMPLETED FORMS T | retain a benefit by the j timated to take 12 min vidual case. Any comn er, U.S. Patent and Tra O THIS ADDRESS. S | public which is to file (anutes to complete, including the including the amount of the demark Office, U.S. Dep END TO: Commissioner | d by the USPTO to process) ng gathering, preparing, and me you require to complete artment of Commerce, P.O. for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, | |

PTOL-85 (Rev. 08/07) Approved for use through 08/31/2010.

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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FILING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 10/539,569 08/18/2005 | | Noriyoshi Sato | 124305 | 4496 |
| 25944 75 | 90 12/15/2008 | | EXAM | INER |
| OLIFF & BERRI | DGE, PLC | EVERHART, CARIDAD | | |
| P.O. BOX 320850 | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER | |
| ALEXANDRIA, V | 'A 22320-4850 | 2895 | | |
| | | DATE MAILED: 12/15/2008 | | |

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 533 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 533 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (http://pair.uspto.gov).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

| | Application No. | Applicant(s) | | | |
|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| | 10/539,569 | SATO ET AL. | | | |
| Notice of Allowability | Examiner | Art Unit | | | |
| | Caridad M. Everhart | 2895 | | | |
| The MAILING DATE of this communication appeal all claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT R | (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in or other appropriate common IGHTS. This application is stand MPEP 1308. | n this application. If not included unication will be mailed in due course. THIS | | | |
| 1. This communication is responsive to <u>Respponse filed 8-29</u> | <u>-2008</u> . | | | | |
| 2. ☑ The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>1-21</u> . | | | | | |
| 3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority ur a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the: 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * Certified copies not received: JP2002-379963. Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONN | been received. been received in Application cuments have been receive | on No d in this national stage application from the | | | |
| THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE. 4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be subm INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which give | | | | | |
| 5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") mus | st be submitted | | | | |
| (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached | | | | | |
| 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date | | | | | |
| (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of | | | | | |
| each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in t | | | | | |
| DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the depo attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT | | | | | |
| Attachment(s) 1. ☑ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 6. ☐ Interview S Paper No 7. ☐ Examiner's | formal Patent Application ummary (PTO-413), 'Mail Date Amendment/Comment Statement of Reasons for Allowance | | | |
| | /Caridad Everh Primary Examir AU 2895 | | | | |

Priority

Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in Japan on 12-27-2002. It is noted, however, that applicant has not filed a certified copy of the JP2002-379963 application as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b).

This was not noted by the examiner in the first Office Action, and any inconvenience caused by this omission is regretted.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record does not teach or suggest all of the limitations of the allowed claims. The reference newly cited (Boutot et al) is considered relevant to applicant's disclosure and is not prior art. Boutot et al disclose a plasma generator for reacting natural gas or methane in which there is a capacitor connected in series to an electrode of the plasma generator.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Caridad M. Everhart whose telephone number is 571-272-1892. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Fridays 7:30-4:00.

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Art Unit: 2895

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, D. Richards can be reached on 571-272-1736. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Caridad Everhart/ Primary Examiner AU 2895

12-8-2008